



US Application 09/11,961

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Sherri Sitzmann  
(name of person making deposit)

S. Sitzmann  
(signature)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	Attorney Docket No: 56.0468
Anthony P. Peirce, et al.	)	
	)	
Serial No.: 09/301,961	)	Group Art Unit: 2123
	)	
Filed: April 29, 1999	)	Examiner: Day, Herng-Der
	)	
For: Method and Apparatus for Hydraulic Fracturing Analysis and Design	)	

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir

**(A) Introductory Comments**

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action dated September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003 in the captioned application. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider Applicant's amendments and remarks as putting the claims in condition for allowance.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Drawings** begin on page 13 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** being on page 14 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including the amended drawings, an affidavit signed by Mr. Siebrits, substitute pages of the specification, and pages of "Boundary Element Methods In Solid Mechanics" are attached following page 17 of this paper.

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**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-19 are pending in this application.

All pending claims have been rejected.

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §112 first paragraph.

Claims 1-2 and 13-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over *GOHFER* in view of *Linkov*.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 3, 4 and 6-12 would be allowable once the rejections under 35 U.S.C §112 are overcome, and for the dependent claims, if further rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.